

1 April 1981

MJN-8107

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS  
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT : Jordan Bureau Monthly Report - March 1981

## I. GENERAL

A. Embassy preparations for the Haig visit to Jordan have included FBIS. In addition to American staffing overnight on the day of the visit, so that all material flagged for his entourage can be quickly passed on, the Bureau technician will be setting up public address systems. Certain press agency material is being passed to ICA for use during the event.

B. Thanks to an assist from Syria, which inaugurated a powerful microwave relay station just across the northern Joreanian border in As-Suwayda', the Bureau can now reliably monitor Syrian television. After sampling the content we have assumed coverage of one evening newscast, and will cover special events on merit.

## II. OPERATIONS

A. Tension between Syria and Jordan escalated another notch when the Syrian President, for the first time, delivered a personal attack against the Jordanian regime. King Husayn retaliated in kind. The political section was kept closely informed of this polemic as it developed, and expressed appreciation for our timely translations.

B. In a major address monitored from Baghdad Domestic Service, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn threatened that, if Iran continued the war, more Iranian territory would be seized including cities. He also declared a policy of openly supporting ethnic minorities in Iran against the government. So far the anticipated Iraqi spring offensive has not materialized.

C. The monitors are now able, following the technician's installation of co-ax antenna switches and new multicouplers, to select various antennas by pushbutton from their monitoring positions. New Akai timers with memory units have already proved useful and reliable.

D. It became necessary to turn back to Nicosia morning and noontime segments of the Clandestine Voice of Palestine when these programs became inaudible here. We are still covering an evening transmission by this station.

III. ADMINISTRATION

Monitors [redacted] as well as teletypists [redacted] received PSI's during the month.

STA  
STA

A very good candidate to round out Gulf Bureau's Arabic team was located and processing is underway. A young Jordanian, he has been working for ICA in Amman in the media field.

[redacted]

STA

Chief, Jordan Bureau

Attachments:

- A. Production Report
- B. Monitor Production
- C. Communications Report
- D. Engineering Report